

REMARKSA. Status of the Claims and Explanation of Amendments

Claim 10, previously allowed, has been amended to further clarify the invention. Claims 12-16, which correspond to original claims 2 and 6-9 have been added. Applicants point out that original claims 2, 5, and 10 were deemed by the Examiner to contain patentable subject matter in the Office Action issued on March 3, 2004. Accordingly, Applicants believe that new claims 12-16 are currently allowable.

Applicant has also added new claims 17 and 18. Support for these claims is found generally throughout the specification. (See, e.g., pages 8 and 10 of Applicants' specification). Applicants believe that new matter has been added by these amendments.

CONCLUSION

In the event that the Examiner decides that a telephone conference would be useful for furthering the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the number provided.

AUTHORIZATION

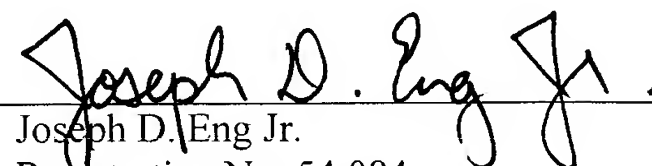
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4834. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4834. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: September 28, 2004

By: _____


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